



**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,

v.

SORIN TUFA aka Miklos Kovacs  
Tibor,

Defendant.

Case No. 23-MJ-987-2

ORDER OF DETENTION

## I.

On March 3, 2023, Defendant, assisted by a Romanian language interpreter, made his initial appearance on the criminal complaint filed in this matter. Humberto Diaz, a member of the Indigent Defense Panel, was appointed to represent Defendant. Defendant submitted on the recommendation by Pretrial Services that Defendant be detained.

☐ On motion of the Government [18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1)] in a case allegedly involving a narcotics or controlled substance offense with maximum sentence of ten or more years.

☒ On motion by the Government or on the Court's own motion [18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2)] in a case allegedly involving a serious risk that the defendant will flee.

The Court concludes that the Government is not entitled to a rebuttable presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the defendant's appearance as required and the safety of any person or the community [18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(2)].

## II.

The Court finds that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure: ☒ the appearance of the defendant as required.

☒ the safety of any person or the community.

## III.

The Court has considered: (a) the nature and circumstances of the offense(s) charged, including whether the offense is a crime of violence, a Federal crime of terrorism, or involves a minor victim or a controlled substance, firearm, explosive, or destructive device; (b) the weight of evidence against the defendant; (c) the history and characteristics of the defendant; and (d) the nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community. [18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)] The Court also

1 considered all the evidence adduced at the hearing, the arguments of counsel, and  
2 the report and recommendation of the U.S. Pretrial Services Agency.

3 IV.

4 The Court bases its conclusions on the following:

5 As to risk of non-appearance:

- 6 ☒ No legal status in the United States – Defendant entered the  
7 United States 6 months ago, and a visa was previously denied  
8 in 2016
- 9 ☒ minimal ties to the Central District of California – has lived  
10 with unnamed roommates in apartment for 6 months
- 11 ☒ Lack of bail resources
- 12 ☒ Unverified background information including residence,  
13 employment, and ties to Central District of California
- 14 ☒ Use of Aliases
- 15 ☒ Provided false name and identification to arresting officers
- 16 ☒ Criminal History includes fraud and theft convictions in  
17 Romania (2009), England (2014, 2017), Netherlands (2016),  
18 and Germany (2018).
- 19 ☒ outstanding warrant in Germany in 2020

20  
21  
22 As to danger to the community:

23 ☒ Defendant poses an economic danger given allegations in the  
24 criminal complaint which include possession of cloned Electronic Benefit  
25 Transfer (debit) cards for the purpose of obtaining and attempting to obtain  
26 funds from the accounts of individual victims whose accounts contained  
27 funds from the Cal Fresh and CalWORKS programs.

- 28 ☒ criminal history reveals consistent pattern of criminal conduct

☒ outstanding warrant

V.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the defendant be detained until trial. The defendant will be committed to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The defendant will be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel. On order of a Court of the United States or on request of any attorney for the Government, the person in charge of the corrections facility in which defendant is confined will deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding. [18 U.S.C. § 3142(i)]

Dated: March 3, 2023

/s/

ALKA SAGAR  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE